MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 NOVEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Al-Jumayyil Remarks, PLO Comment -- Before leaving Saudi Arabia and returning to Lebanon, President Amin al-Jumayyil expressed profound gratitude for the Saudi Kingdom's "special" care for Lebanon and asserted that Lebanon must be saved from "the game of balanced conflicts in the region" in order to rebuild itself, SPA reported. In a commentary on Al-Jumayyil's visit to Saudi Arabia, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the PLO is uncertain whether any of the Saudi aid that will be offered to Al-Jumayyil's government to reconstruct Lebanon will be used to rebuild Palestinian camps shattered in the Israeli invasion. Contending that the Palestinian combatants in Lebanon are not "foreign forces" because they are neither occupation forces nor invaders but are in Lebanon to protect Palestinian civilians living there, the radio expressed apprehension that a Palestinian withdrawal from northern Lebanon and Al-Biqa' would jeopardize the security of Palestinian civilians living in those areas. The Palestinian military presence is an issue that can be solved between the Lebanese Government and the PLO immediately after an Israeli withdrawal, toward which all efforts should now be directed, the radio added.

Israeli Alternative to Security Agreement -- Senior Israeli defense officials cited by the Tel Aviv daily HA'ARETZ said that if the Lebanese Government continues to turn down the security and normalization arrangements proposed by Israel, the latter will have to withdraw unilaterally into its proposed security zone and extend the enclave ruled by Maj Sa'd Haddad's forces up to the Al-Awwali River, north of Sidon. However, the sources said there is no chance that this will occur because there is an optimistic atmosphere regarding the success of the talks with Lebanon.

Ash-Shuf Situation -- An IDF convoy moved inland from Ad-Damur into the Ash-Shuf hills, AFP reported citing eyewitnesses. Meanwhile, Lebanese radios continued to differ sharply in their interpretation of the Ash-Shuf violence. Following the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon's report that Druze gunmen killed two Christians in an ambush in Sirjbal, the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said the deaths occurred when local inhabitants confronted Phalangist attempts to establish a center in the village.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

After the death of 'Aliza Begin, Egyptian leaders sent Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin "very warm" condolence messages which the Israelis regard as an important gesture indicating Egypt's desire to maintain normal relations with Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. According to another report by the radio, the United States has asked Egypt to return its ambassador to Israel before Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's impending visit to the United States and also to permit the resumption of the autonomy talks, thus creating a good atmosphere for the peace process.

Egypt

The judicial authorities have decided to release 162 persons detained on charges of belonging to extremist religious organizations, according to MENA reports on 14 and 15 November.

Iran-Iraq War

Military Situation -- The Iranians launched two new offensives, one late on 15 November in the Mandali region and the other early the next morning in the Maysan sector, according to an Iraqi military spokesman's statements broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio on 16 November. The spokesman claimed that Iraqi forces foiled both attacks, capturing Iranian personnel and equipment. The Iraqis also announced that their planes had launched new strikes at enemy targets inside Iran and denied Iranian claims to have shot down two Iraqi planes, according to INA reports.

Confirming the new offensives, IRNA said the Iranians killed or captured some 500 Iraqis and occupied strategic heights 13 km inside Iraq's Maysan area southwest of the Abu Gharib outpost.

Saddam Husayn Comments -- At a military awards ceremony in Baghdad, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn stressed the importance of training in preparing the Iraqi Army for a long war, INA revealed. The president added that a long war requires additional army formations, particularly since the war has become a defensive one for Iraq.

Iran

During operations on 14-15 November, government troops secured 97 km of the Sar Dasht-Piranshahr border road from the "counterrevolutionaries" in Kordestan and captured four command centers and one radio station belonging to the Kurdish Democratic Party, Tehran radio reported. Iran's prosecutor general told IRNA that terrorism has been virtually eliminated both in Tehran and in the provincial cities.

Moscow Talks

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Andropov met with DRA President Babrak Karmal in Moscow on 15 November, TASS reported. They discussed the international situation as well as bilateral relations and expressed "deep satisfaction" with existing relations, TASS added. Andropov also met with Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, Karachi radio reported. Citing a TASS report, the radio said the two leaders briefly discussed Afghanistan.

Gulf Affairs

Oman-PDRY Agreement -- The text of the Oman-PDRY agreement, broadcast by Salalah radio, states that the two countries agreed to establish normal relations based on mutual respect, to solve their differences by peaceful means, to find a durable solution to the border issue, to not allow any foreign forces to use their territories for aggression or provocation against the other country and to stop all media campaigns. They also agreed in principle to establish diplomatic relations. Both sides agreed to ratify the agreement on 15 November, the document said.

Olszowski Visits Kuwait -- In a news conference in Kuwait following his meeting with the Kuwaiti amir and other Kuwaiti officials, Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski praised Kuwait's domestic and foreign policies and said that he was very impressed with the positive ideas expressed during the meetings. Olszowski affirmed Poland's support for Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause, KUNA added. Kuwait and Poland signed an educational cooperation agreement, another KUNA report noted.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL: WE INVITE OUR NEIGHBORS TO PEACE

LD142200 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Babrak Karmal speech to the international conference on socioeconomic development and threat of war on 12 November in Kabul -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear comrades, friends and esteemed guests: We have come together, with our hearts full of love and kindness, to think about the destiny and future of mankind. However, we are filled with profound sorrow. One of the best men of our century, the true continuer of the path of Lenin, the fighter and hero of the path of peace and security of the masses, the kind and indefatigable servant of the path of humanity's prosperity, L.I. Brezhnev is no longer among us. The great name of L.I. Brezhnev will remain alive and eternal in the hearts of the workers and of all progressive and peace-loving forces of the world.

The death of L.I. Brezhnev is a great loss for progressive mankind and for the world peace movement. The people of Afghanistan have lost one of their best and dearest friends in L.I. Brezhnev. The grateful people of Afghanistan will never forget the dear memory of L.I. Brezhnev who played an important role in strengthening and expanding the great fraternal friendship between the people of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. Leonid Ilich consistently and personally did not spare any supervision or effort in helping the people of Afghanistan. The dear memory of our beloved Leonid Ilich, this eternal torch, will live forever.

Let us once again express the profound sorrow and condolence of the people, party and Government of Afghanistan and myself to the CPSU, the people and the Government of the Soviet Union, and to the family of that dear friend of the Afghan people. To honor the noble memory of L.I. Brezhnev, I ask everyone to stand and observe 1 minute of silence.

We are fully aware that as a result of the adventurous policies of the warmongering imperialist circles, especially the adventurous Reagan administration, the world is heading toward tension and destructive adventures.

A ruthless undeclared war by imperialism, Chinese hegemonism and reaction in the region has been waged against our people. Counterrevolutionary bands and professional mercenaries sent from outside with U.S., Chinese, Egyptian, Pakistani and other weapons, are destroying schools, hospitals, bridges, mosques, electrical lines and means of transportation. They ruthlessly kill our children, women and old people and, according to themselves, are defeating our revolution. However, our people believe every day in the truth and inevitable victory of our revolution and are standing in its defense.

Right now, tens of thousands of our people, especially the peasants, arms in hand, are defending their land and their lives against the aggressions of the bandits. Today, we need peace more than ever. The enemies of our revolution, using as a pretext the lawful and fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union, have waged a ruthless and bloody war against us. On the other hand, to justify their crimes they have intensified their propaganda against us, raising an unprecedented hue and cry reminiscent of the worst period of the cold war.

Right now, the official press of imperialist and reactionary countries carry progaganda full of slander and lies about the truths and realities of our society. The aim is to create grudges and hatred against our awakened people and revolution. Every 24 hours, the enemy radios carry more than 95 hours of broadcasts in our country's languages. The Voice of America, BBC and Deutsche Welle, Radio Israel and the worthless Radio Pakistan all pursue one objective -- to distort the truth, legitmacy and credibility of our revolution.

In our country, despite the continuation of the undeclared war of imperialism, an economic situation exists that is able to resist all the destruction of this ruthless war.

We have managed to prevent famine, intolerable price increases of essential commodities, stagnation of transportation and a significant decrease in social services. Right now, we are in the process of implementing huge economic activities, of which the following can be mentioned: completion of the process of land and water reform acceleration of the (?construction) of Salma electricity and irrigation dam in Herst Province, continuation of the work of Aynak copper mine, the construction of a huge silo in Mazar-e Sharif, electricity transmission project from the borders of the Soviet Union to Kabul, construction of small and large irrigation systems, creation of new and modern state transportation enterprises and technical workshops, construction of the huge friendship bridge over the Amu River between the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, installation of the Shamshad communication and television receiving system, creation of various kinds of peasant cooperatives and [word indistinct], construction of more than 800 schools and others.

One of the main objectives of the undeclared war against our country is the creation of obstacles in the path of development plans for the workers' prosperity and, as a result, to discredit our revolution as not able to solve the important problems. So far, 1,713 schools and tens of hospitals have been destroyed by the counterrevolution. Hundreds of bridges, hundreds of large electrical transmission poles, tens of libraries and public buildings have been destroyed by counterrevolutionary elements. So far, thousands of teachers, doctors, specialists and noble clergymen have been martyred by the terrorist bands. Counterrevolutionaries, just like bandits, create obstacles in transportation and are disrupting the people's daily life.

Our country's peasants have been forced to form armed revolution defense groups all over the country to defend their land, work and families. Our people are tired of the war and the plundering activity of counterrevolutionaries. Today, more than ever, for our people the struggle for peace means the sturggle for life, security and progress. Our people know from their daily experiences that peace is a valuable [word indistinct], which can be achieved only by unity of action, resolute struggle and by using noble principles. For our people, peace means struggle and struggle means peace.

The PDPA and the DRA Government, relying on the will of the people and honestly serving their interests, reflect their wishes and desires, and have always proposed specific plans for international and national peace based on practical realities acceptable for all [words indistinct].

We long ago announced to all our compatriots that we want peace and we want to put an end to the painful situation arising from the undeclared war of imperialism. To this end, we have not spared proper actions including the announcement of general amnesty, even for those engaged in hostile armed activities against their revolutionary government.

We have tried several times to convince our neighbors, especially Pakistan and Iran, that their unlawful intervention, instigations and aggressions against our country are neither in the interests of the people of the region nor in the interest of peace in the world. We clearly and punctually have put forward specific proposals for the solution of the problems of the current situation in our region. However, no answer has been given to this our honest will. We believe the initiative of [word indistinct] for maintaining peace in the region is in our hands.

You, militants of the path of peace, very well know the propaganda of imperialism and other enemy forces against our revolution and country. They (?distort) the legitimate and unavoidable [as heard] internationalist assistance of the Soviet Union to our country. We once again with loud voice announce from this international dais, that the limited contingents of the Soviet Union that came to the aid of our people in the most difficult moments of our history, at the invitation of the lawful and [words indistinct] authorities of our party and government to repel the planned external aggression against revolution, are not a source of danger to our neighbors. However, they have prevented Afghanistan from becoming a base of imperialist (?aggression against) the people of our region. We owe our independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity against the adventurous plans of U.S. imperialism to the heroic people of the land of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

We once again stress that, based on our specific proposals dated 14 May 1980 and 24 August 1981 that when credible international guarantees are given for an end to aggression and intervention from Pakistan and Iran against our country, the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union will return to their peaceful country, and we are prepared to arrange the schedule for their return.

It is obvious that, from our point of view, an end to the [word indistinct] present situation in the region has an unbreakable relation with the end of aggression from the territories of Pakistan and Iran against our country. I should add that we have more than 2,400 km of [words indistinct] borders, that is, mountains, with Pakistan which makes [words indistinct] for the aggressions of foreigners against our country.

We hope that our southern and western neighbors carefully will listen to the loud call for peace which rises from our country in this conference. We once again [words indistinct] are calling for solutions to the problems of our people. We invite our neighbors to peace. You representatives of peace should also call on them for an end to aggression, hostilities and interventions in our country.

KARMAL RECEIVES SOVIET DELEGATION 10 NOV

LD110924 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, in the presence of Dr Anahita Ratebzad, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Union of the DRA Friendship Organizations With Foreign Countries, this afternoon received Zinaida Mikhaylovna Kruglova, CPSU Politburo member, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries, who arrived today in Kabul at the head of a delegation.

At the meeting, which was held in the Golkhana Palace of the Revolutionary Council headquarters in an atmosphere of friendship and sincerity, topics of mutual interest were discussed.
According to another report, Dr Anahita Ratebzad met with Zinaida Mikhaylovna Kruglova at the union headquarters. 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, vice chairman of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society, also was present. At the meeting, held in a friendly atmosphere, topics of mutual interest were discussed.

Zinaida Midhaylovna Kruglova and his delegation arrived today in Kabul at the invitation of Dr Anahita Ratebzad.

'Abdol Majid Sarboland, other party and state officials, representatives of the party Central Committee International Relations Department, the Foreign Ministry Protocol Department and the DWOA [Democratic Women's Organization of Afghanistan] International Relations Department, other staff of the Union of the DRA Friendship Organizations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet minister plenipotentiary in the Soviet Embassy in Kabul welcomed the Soviet guests.

GANDHI MEETS WITH ANDROPOV, RETURNS FROM MOSCOW

BK160403 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, returned to New Delhi early this morning after attending the funeral of the late Soviet president, Mr Brezhnev, in Moscow. She is leaving for (Nalpur) a short while from now from where she will proceed to Punar Ashram to attend the funeral of Acharya Vinobha Bhave.

In Moscow, Mrs Gandhi extended an invitation to the Soviet Communist Party general secretary, Yuriy Andropov, to visit India. Mr Andropov has accepted the invitation and was likely to visit India some time next year. The exact date will be worked out later.

During the meeting, which lasted more than half an hour, the Soviet leader assured Mrs Gandhi that the Soviet Union will carry forward the policy of close cooperation with India which has been one of the main features of the Soviet policy. He said Indo-Soviet relations were very close and cordial and the two countries have identical views on most world issues.

Mrs Gandhi said the Soviet Union is a trusted friend and has helped India in many difficult moments. Both leaders also discussed the world economic situation and other issues.

Mr Andropov expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Mrs Gandhi and the Indian people for sharing the grief over the loss of Mr Brezhnev. Mrs Gandhi was assisted during the talks by the external affairs minister, Narasimha Rao, and the Indian ambassador in Moscow, V.K. Ahuja. The Soviet foreign minister Mr Gromyko and the adviser to the late Brezhnev, Mr Aleksandrov assisted the Soviet leader.

Despite the pressures of protocol in view of the assembling of large number of world leaders in Moscow, the Indian delegation led by Mrs Gandhi was received with great courtesy. The Soviet media gave prominence to Mrs Gandhi and her engagements.

RAO, POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDE TALKS

BK121639 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] The foreign minister of Poland, Stefan Olszowski, had a second and final round of talks with External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao in New Delhi today. They discussed bilateral matters and the Polish offer of assistance in India's thermal power generation and coal mining. At the political level, the two ministers noted that their governments have been cooperating in international fields at various levels and decided to further strengthen it.

RAO MEETS WITH MALDIVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

BK121648 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] The foreign minister of Maldives, Fathulla Jameel, met External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao in New Delhi today. He was in the capital on his way to Tokyo to attend a meeting of the Colombo plan.

OFFICIAL CITES ZHAO ZIYANG ON BORDER DISPUTE

BK131601 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang has said he finds no reason why the border dispute between India and his country cannot be resolved with sincerity and understanding on both sides. He expressed his view to Vice President of the Indo-China Society Spikant Verma, who is back in New Delhi after a good will tour of China. Zhao Ziyang and other Chinese leaders whom he had met expressed keen desire to settle the dispute.

NO CLEAR WINNER SEEN IN NAGALAND ELECTIONS

BK131609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] In Nagaland, no party has emerged with an absolute majority in the election to the 60 member state assembly. With 59 results officially declared so far, the ruling Naga National Democratic Party [NNDP] has secured 24 seats. The Congress-I which contested for the first time in all the constituencies, has bagged 23 seats. A dozen independents have been elected this time. Only one result is yet to be announced from the Wakching constituency, where the counting has not been taken up following some discrepancy in the ballot papers in one of the polling booths.

Our special correspondent Prabhakar Misra reports from Kohima that the large number of independent candidates who have been elected will hold the key in the formation of the new ministry. He says the return of such a large number of independents is nothing unusual. In the assembly elections of 1974 and 1977 also several independents were elected, but they joined oneparty or the other later. There are 20 new faces among the winners.

Meanwhile, both the NNDP and the Congress-I have claimed that they can form the ministry with the support of independents.

BRIEFS

ARMENIAN REPUBLIC DELEGATION -- A two-member Soviet delegation led by S.T. Akhumyan, education minister of the Armenian Republic, arrived in New Delhi today on a 10-day visit. During its stay, the delegation will acquaint itself with the education system and related research programs in India. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 Oct 82 BK]

AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO -- India and Mexico on 12 November signed an agreement to strengthen bilateral relations in economic, scientific and cultural fields. They also signed a protocol for setting up an India-Mexican subcommission for financial cooperation. The two countries will also cooperate in the field of energy, particularly in petroleum exploration. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Nov 82 BK]

NEW MANDALI OFFENSIVE LAUNCHED 15 NOVEMBER

GF160938 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran last night launched an attack against the heights and axes around the city of Mandali inside Iraq. [Passage indistinct] a number of military leaders in the army of Saddam. This operation is codenamed Ya Zayn al-'Abidin 'Alayhi as-Salam.

Another group of Islamic Republic of Iran forces -- in a studied operation -- entered the city of Mandali, inflicting crushing blows on the forces of the Iraqi regime present there and then returned to its defensive posts. Details of losses inflicted on the enemy during the intrusion operation will be provided in later communiques.

During the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operation on 30 September, the Muslim combatants had succeeded in liberating the strategic heights to the west of Sumar and, with that, they fully surrounded the Iraqi city of Mandali. The operations carried out last night by the forces of the Islamic Republic completed the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operation.

Report on Joint Communique

LD160934 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Najaf Headquarters, Nov 16, IRNA -- The Islamic forces launched another offensive against the Iraqi aggressors in the Muslim ibn 'Aqil operational region, in western Iran.

According to a joint communique by the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) and the army, the offensive was launched last night on the Iranian heights overlooking the Iraqi town of Mandali which were partly liberated on October first.

The communique said that more than 70 percent of the enemy's equipment were destroyed and a number of Iraqi commanders were killed, namely the commander of the Malik Battalion.

The offensive was carried out jointly by the army personnel, the IRGC and the mobilisation forces (basij).

Also the joint communique said that the Islamic combatants entered Mandali and returned after inflicting crushing blows on the Iraqi forces. They returned to their newly captured strategic strongholds.

More details will be released later today.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1,122

LD151740 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Communique No 1,122 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran[

[Text] In His exalted name. We inform the dear compatriots about the latest developments on the battlefronts of the imposed war.

Sporadic fighting and exchanges of fire continued on all the country's western fronts throughout yesterday.

During the exchanges of fire on the Marivan and Paveh fronts, the victorious Islamic fighters maintained their superior firepower, firing on enemy positions and units and causing enemy losses and casualties. In (Sha'b al-Himam), brave Gendarmerie personnel opened fire on enemy positions, killing several Saddamists.

In the Moharram operational regions, the victorious Islamic forces returned the fire of the Saddam mercenaries while fortifying their positions. Through continuous and heavy fire, they halted enemy movements and operations.

In the (Chamleyli) and (Radif) regions, the intensity of fire was greater than that on other fronts in this region. The self-sacrificing personnel of the air force and the airborne division were engaged in considerable activities and operations in these regions.

The exchange of fire continued yesterday in the Arvand Rud area between the powerful forces of Islam and the enemy. As a result, our forces' fire set on fire and destroyed more than eight foxholes and trenches of the blasphemous forces of Saddam; several enemy personnel were killed or wounded.

Abadan and Khorramshahr again yesterday came under fire from the artillery and other heavy weapons of the criminal mercenaries of Saddam, which in addition to killing or wounding several of our dear compatriots, destroyed four houses and stores.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRAQIS SET FIRE TO ABU GHURAYB OIL PUMP

LD152150 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] The oil pump in Abu Ghurayb, southwest of Zubaydat, yesterday afternoon was set on fire by the Zionist Iraqi mercenaries. According to IRNA, following the successful Moharram operations, as the result of which a number of Iraqi oil wells and oil pumps were liberated by the fighters of Islam, the Zionist Iraqi forces repeatedly have tried to destroy their oil wells and oil installations. Yesterday, they set fire to Abu Ghurayb oil pump situated southwest of Zubaydat with their artillery fire.

AIR FORCE TURNS BACK IRAQI FIGHTERS 14 NOV

GF151750 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Bakhtaran, Nov. 15, IRNA -- The Iranian Air Force fighters and air defence of the ground forces immediately repulsed 15 aggressor Iraqi planes which violated the air space of the western operational regions during Sunday. These war planes were forced to flee without carrying out any mission.

DESTRUCTION OF IRAQI POSITIONS REPORTED

GF160650 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] IRNA has reported that during 15 November the Islamic warriors opened artillery on enemy positions in the regions of (Wali Azeh), (Khanum Sheikhan) and Tutman, destroying several trenches and halting the desperate enemy's movements.

According to reports received from the Islamic revolution guards, on 13-14 November, Islami soldiers also shelled the garrisons of (Wali Azeh Kolu), (Nazareh) and (Koneyzar) in Iraq, inflicting heavy casualties and losses, destroying 5 tanks, 2 howitzer 155-mm guns, 4 trucks and one ammunition depot, and killing or wounding 162 Saddamist mercenaries, including an Iraqi major.

IRNA: COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES COMPLETELY PURGED

GF151758 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 15, IRNA -- The Islamic combatants inflicted another crushing defeat on the American mercenaries in western Iran this morning when they completely purged the Piranshahr-Sar Dasht axis, in the border region of East Azarbayjan Province, of counterrevolutionary armed elements.

In an announcement issued tonight, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC) reported that all of the 97 km border road was liberated thus linking the territories of the Islamic Republic of Iran for the first time since the victory of the Islamic revolution.

It said that the final purging operations of the axis began last night and continued until it was achieved in the early hours of this morning.

Other results of the operation, named after the commander of the Kordestan branch of the IRGC Naser Kazemi, who was martyred recently, are as follows:

- The capture of the command centres of the outlawed Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) in the Alwatan, Hang Adab, Wavan, and Mirabad and also the capture of the KDP radio station.

- The destruction of the base of the Monafiquin [hypocrites] (MKO) terrorist group in Chaku and blocking their supply route from Iraq.

- The infliction of crushing blows on the counterrevolutionaries of the region and the seizure of a large amount of documents related to the groups and three 105 mm artillery pieces, two bulldozers, and a large number of vehicles and personal armaments in addition to large amounts of food stuff.

- Reaching the people of the region who had been under the domination of the American-inspired mercenary groups for more than three years.

These achievements came after a gradual advance of the Islamic forces since early September when the establishment of the Hamzeh Seyyed as-Shohada military base was announced.

The announcement also called on the illegal armed elements to surrender themselves to the Islamic forces as soon as possible.

MONARCHISTS GO ON TRIAL IN TEHRAN 15 NOVEMBER

GF151752 Terhan IRNA in English 1655 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 15 IRNA -- Trial of eight persons, supporters of the toppled monarchy, started in Tehran's military revolutionary tribunal, headed by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi-Reyshahri, this morning.

The group of eight including a colonel, two university professors and a woman are accused of endangering the security of the country and plotting to overthrow the Islamic Republic.

The offenders were arrested last March and April and three of them defended themselves during the session held on Monday and the next session of the court will be on Wednesday.

CHIEF JUSTICE QUESTIONED ON POLITICAL PRISONERS

LD122358 Tehran IRNA in English 2027 GMT 12 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 12 IRNA -- Chief Justice Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili held a press conference here Thursday, in the course of which he replied to a number of questions put forth by Iranian and foreign reporters.

At the beginning of the press interview, the ayatollah [illegible]ed that the philosophy behind the Islamic revolution in Iran was that the Iranian nation had been fed up with the former regime's tyrannies, discriminations and unjustices. Consequently, said the chief justice, they launched a movement to get rid of these discriminations and to establish justice, ethics and virtue.

Nonetheless, Ayatollah Ardabili continued his remarks, there is a feeling that the world has not understood the Iranian revolution as it is. In other words, pointed out the chief justice, the true face of the Islamic revolution is still unknown to some of the countries of the world.

"They speak on our behalf and bring allegations against us which have no basis and source," said the chief justice, further adding that their only source may be counter-revolutionaries and fugitives (attached to the former regime).

In conclusion of his introductory speech, the chief justice expressed the hope that the situation would gradually improve so that "they would know us better".

The press interview commenced with a question put forth by a foreign reporter on trial of counterrevolutionaries, in reply to which the chief justice stated that the trials were held in keeping with the existing rules and criteria.

The accused according to Ayatollah Ardabili has the right to defend himself and have a lawyer, further saying that the court is relatively open to the public and that after the punishment is determined, the verdict will be carried out.

Asked about the number of "political prisoners" in Iran, the chief justice said the Islamic Republic did not hold political prisoners. He further added that it was better to ask whether the Islamic Republic imprisoned or punished a person who did not commit any offenses. Further commenting on the death penalty said he, it should be said that all the efforts of judicial officials was in the direction not to sentence to death any person unless he had been found guilty for a crime punishable with death.

Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili also said that the judicial department of the army was delegated to conduct military tribunals according to specific regulations and principles.

The chief justice responding to another question said that he was not presented as candidate in the upcoming election for the experts assembly, but if the people themselves nominated him as candidate he would accept.

Talking about the return of Iranians from other countries, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili said that if these people had not committed any crimes they could return to their country and be sure that they would enjoy security.

The chief justice said that the judicial organisations had been Islamised as approved of by the Majlis.

Elaborating on the difference between the Western and Islamic judicial systems, he said that the Islamic judicial system was a combination of codified and non-codified systems Some part is based on non-codified system, that is, on common law and culture, he said. Previously, Iran's judicial laws were codified but Islam was a combination of these two systems.

OFFICIAL SAYS TERRORISM 'ALMOST ROOTED OUT'

GF151802 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 15 NOV 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 15, IRNA -- The prosecutor general of the Islamic revolution, Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Tabrizi said today that terrorism had been almost rooted out in provincial cities and in Tehran, further saying except for a few cases since Sept. 23, counterrevolutionaries had not committed any significant crimes.

Speaking in a press conference attended by domestic and foreign reporters, the prosecutor general added that this indicated that these groups were scattered.

Talking about the bomb explosion at Tehran's downtown Naser-Khosrow Street (on Oct. 1st in which over 80 innocent people were martyred and more than 700 others injured), Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Tabrizi said that as documents showed, they were almost sure that it was carried out by Mojahedin-e Khalq (MKO) aimed at damaging the country's communication system, which they failed. It is to be mentioned that the communication building is located near the scene of the explosion.

He further stated that over 1.5 million dollars of smuggled foreign exchange had been discovered and seized by revolutionary courts since March 21, 1982. The revolutionary court of the armed forces, added he, has also seized a greater amount.

The prosecutor general then praised the campaign of the court against prohibitions from sins and those by the anti-narcotics court adding that their activities were very successful.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Musavi-Tabrizi also confirmed his nomination for the elections of the experts assembly (to be held on Dec. 10. The elected members will appoint a council of leadership).

ESFAHAN GUARDS BREAK UP FEDA'IYAN-E KHALQ GROUP

LD131806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Excerpts] The Central News Unit reports a statement from the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, announcing that following the round-the-clock efforts of the Esfahan Islamic revolution guards, with the cooperation of the 36 million members of the intelligence organization, a deadly blow was dealt to the Feda'iyan-e Khalq guerrillas the minority branch. In this operation, about 80 officials, members, links and supporters of the Feda'iyan-e Khalq organization, minority branch in Esfahan, (Shahr-e Kord) and surrounding towns were either killed or arrested.

Also in this operation, several corrupt safe houses and team houses were discovered and taken by the brothers of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, who discovered and confiscated a quantity of arms and ammunition, printing and [word indistinct] facilities, including several printing and copying machines, photocopiers, typewriters, a large number of books on Marxism, organizational documents, foreign and internal publications by the minority branch and several cars and motorcycles. With this blow, all conspiracies of this group in factories, including the Esfahan steel mill, were foiled.

ESFAHAN FRIDAY IMAM ON MARTYRS' FUNERAL

GF151830 Esfahan Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Ayatollah Taheri, Esfahan Friday imam, message issued 15 November in Esfahan -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Greetings to the (?holy saint) lord of the ages, may my soul be sacrificed for him. Greetings to his dear deputy, the great leader of the revolution, the protector of the oppressed and the commander in chief of the armed forces, the imam of umma', may my soul be sacrificed for him.

The issue about which I need to inform the families of martyrs deals with the ceremonies scheduled for tomorrow. There will be around 300 martyrs according to my information. The golestan-e shohada [martyrs' cemetery] currently has room for only 100 martyrs. Therefore 200 martyrs have no place in golestan-e shohada. However, there is a plan to expand the golestan which has been discussed in numerous sessions chaired by us and participated in by revolution organizations. It already has gone into effect. Houses bordering the golestan and a shrine behind it have been purchased and houses are being built for the people of these houses. When these purchased houses are removed, the land will be used by golestan-e shohada.

I ask you, since you have shown such sacrifices and willingly sent your dear ones to the fronts where they lovingly drank the elixir of martyrdom for their holy goals and Islamic aims, thus achieving the presence of God, not to do anything to cause their holy spirits to become unhappy with us. So please let there be no argument about any burial. Let no one say anything about the place of burial. There is no difference. I tell you right now and you will witness this in the very near future. There will be an extension to the golestan-e shohada and the location does not matter. We cannot create land and the current land according to the report cannot hold more than 100 martyrs. So please sacrifice in this instance as well, show your patience and poise and do what will please the souls of your martyrs.

NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL INTRODUCED AT MEETING

GF130658 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1500 GMT 10 Nov 82

[Summary] The Central News Unit has reported that at a meeting attended by Hojjat ol-Eslam Shar'i, Friday imam of Behshahr [as heard], Mr Ghanbari, acting governor general of Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad, introduced (Safiollah) Qolipur as the governor of Kohkiluyeh to the officials and personnel of the Islamic revolution foundation.

Former Governor Arrested

GF131344 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 30 Oct 82 p 2

[From the Central News Unit in Yasuj]

[Text] The former governor general of Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad during the accursed Pahlavi regime has been arrested.

According to this report, following the arrest of retired Maj Gen Maqsud Hampa'i, former governor general of Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad during the idolatrous regime, the Islamic revolution prosecutor's office of Yasuj issued a communique asking the dedicated Muslim people of Kohkiluyeh va Boyer Ahmad Province to report to the office any evidence or complaint against him. The last date for such complaints was set for 1 November.

KHOMEYNI MEETS WITH CHIEF OF STAFF, FRIDAY IMAM

LD131142 Tehran IRNA in English 1035 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 13 (IRNA) -- Chief of the Joint Staff, Brigadier General Qassim 'Ali Zahirnezhad met this morning with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran and submitted to him a report on the recent developments of the war fronts of the Iraqi imposed war on Iran.

Zahirnezhad, after the meeting with Imam Khomeyni said that the Iraqi counteroffensives would never save Saddam and he will be, God-Willing, destroyed and the Islamic combatants will be victorious.

In another development today Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati, a member of the Council of Guardians of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the temporary Friday prayers leader of the Bakhtaran Province met with the imam and presented a report on the situation of that province.

MUSAVI INTRODUCES NEW MINISTERS TO KHOMEYNI

LD151116 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi was received this morning by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and introduced him to Messrs Khatami, Rafiqdust and Ejei, ministers of Islamic guidance, of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and of state and head of the state welfare organization respectively.

At the conclusion of his audience with the imam of umma', the prime minister spoke to our correspondent on the topics discussed in the presence of the imam of umma':

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The meeting aimed at introducing our new brother ministers to the imam of umma'. As usual, the imam gave his guidance and especially stressed the fact that the government should be grateful to our great nation, for its unity and solidarity [words indistinct] and to remain the good servants of the nation. The imam also emphasized the roles of those three ministries, the Ministry of Islamic Guidance, the Welfare Ministry. As usual, he reiterated the need to support the oppressed.

IRNA REFUTES FORMER EMPLOYEE'S STATEMENT

GF131727 Tehran IRNA in English 1635 GMT 13 Nov 82

[Text] Tehran, Nov 13, IRNA -- A former employee at IRNA's telex-repair and transmission office has reportedly been given asylum in Britain. Daud Parvisian who was charged with misappropriation of IRNA's funds before his escape from the country, was well-known among his colleagues for his bankrupt political views on the events in Iran, before and after the Islamic revolution, and he was characterised by them as an over-ambitious and materialistic person.

Parvisian was an engineer and unqualified to make statements on the accurate news writing and reporting procedure at IRNA. The allegations attributed to him clearly indicate this lack of knowledge. A simple comparison of IRNA's accurate news concerning the Iraqi imposed war, for example is proof of IRNA's consistent line of factual reporting.

This fact is even admitted by the foreign news organizations every once in a while. In addition, allegations that IRNA deliberately prevented the reporting of a terrorist attack on its building a few months ago is another lie since the incident was covered by IRNA and reported in Tehran's dailies, despite the fact that it was not a significant event.

Five months ago he went on a mission to Japan, and if he was so desperate to leave the Islamic Republic as mentioned by the imperialist mass media reports, he could have easily made his escape through Japan.

His strong material tendencies have led him to join hands with the colonialists and terrorists outside the country, although the propaganda mileages Western media will exploit from this fugitive is meagre.

Moreover the important point in this whole event is that the terrorists outside Iran have become so weak politically, that they now have to rely on such insignificant and weak persons such as Parvizian to swell their banks. [as received]

NVOI COMMENTARY VIEWS BREZHNEV'S DEATH, LIFE

TA121654 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 11 Nov 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Attention, dear compatriots: As the world press and mass media have reported, Mr Brezhnev, general secretary of the Communist Party and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, 10 November at 0900 Tehran time.

Mr Brezhnev who was born in a worker's family is one of the great international figures, who devoted his entire life to promoting world-encompassing, theoretical socialism, consolidating the link of solidarity of nations, maintaining peace and constructive international cooperation, unstinting support for progressive and national movements and struggle against imperialism's aggressive plots. Mr Brezhnev's biography is full of untiring and creative work, originality and decisiveness, sincerity and good intentions. Whether at the front of work, the front of war against fascism, or during the post-war era, he exerted his utmost power to revive the country's economy, to improve further the living standard of the Soviet people and to aid all liberated and subjugated nations.

Our nation through experience and during the peak of its glorious revolution clearly observed how the late Brezhnev, by warning America not to interfere in our homeland's internal affairs, decisively and consistently supported our nation's glorious revolution against the plots of world-devouring America.

Brezhnev was the faithful son of the Soviet people, sincere supporter of the world's toilers, true backer of peace and irreconcilable foe of war and imperialist aggression. The memory of this great figure will live forever in the minds and hearts of nations and all the world's toilers.